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# WAIT ON THE LORD.

BY

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## Watchwords for Christians.

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### WAIT ON THE LORD.

THE Lord intends to keep his people dependent upon himself. He has every thing they do or can need. He intends to supply all their wants ; but he will be applied to. He will have his people wait on him, and wait for him. In doing so, he will try their faith, fortitude, patience, and perseverance. He will sometimes put them to a severe test, but he will never

fail them, forsake them, or leave them destitute. If they trust in him, plead with him, and wait on him, they will be raised to a state of comparative independence, for they need not fear any man, or any circumstance, or any state they can be in. The Lord will be to them a God. He will do for them all that a God can do ; and that is, all they can require, all that is consistent with their welfare and his own glory. Believer, you may be independent of all creation by realizing thy dependence upon thy God, and waiting upon him continually. You must believe the love he has to you, his watchful care over you, his delight in you,

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the promises he has given you, the provision he has made for you, the glory he will get by you, and the honor to which he intends to raise you. In so doing, the fear of man will die, joy in God will spring up, the peace of God will fill your heart and mind, your dependence on creatures will cease, and you will be happy in looking only to the Lord. "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him."  
"Wait on the Lord, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it."

Wait in all Circumstances.

You can be in no circumstances in which the Lord can not help you, in which he will not help you, if you look simply to him, rest on him, and wait for him. For every condition in which you may be placed, there is a promise; by that promise the Lord stands pledged to appear for you and help you; his pledge he is ever ready to redeem, by delivering you; only he will have you believe his word, exercise confidence in him, plead the promise at his throne, and wait for its fulfillment. *Wait, then, on the Lord at all times.* Times will change, creatures will vary, but the Lord remains always the

same. In youth and health, in manhood and prosperity, in age and its infirmities, we should wait on the Lord. He will adapt his mercies to us, make all his goodness pass before us, and cause all things to work together for our good. He will never leave us, change his views of us, or withhold his tender mercies from us. He is faithful to his word, true to his character, and full of love to his people. Whatever change there may be in creatures, there is no change in him. Health may give way to sickness, plenty to poverty, strength to weakness, and life to death, but he is the same. With him there is no variableness,



neither shadow of a turn. Therefore, "wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart; wait, I say, on the Lord."

Wait for Light in Darkness.

Dark seasons you will have, for it is the lot of all Christians. A cloud may come over your prospects, and the sentence of death may be passed on many of your comforts. Your gourd may be smitten and wither, and the Lord may take away the desire of your eyes with a stroke. He may seem to turn against you, to turn his hand against you all the day. There may be no sweet intimations

of his love, no pleasant intercourse with him at his throne, no sensible communion with him in his ordinances : all within may be cold, cheerless, and dreary ; and all without disheartening and discouraging. Instead of success, there may be losses ; instead of comfort, trouble ; instead of friendship, enmity and alienation. Trade may decline ; employment may fail ; health may give way ; all things may seem to be against you. But however discouraging your circumstances may be, however dull and dreary you may be in your soul, or cast down on account of the difficulties of the way, still wait on the Lord, nor shall you

wait in vain. Deep and almost overwhelming were the trials, distresses, and soul troubles of David, but though his soul was cast down within him, he waited on the Lord, and he has recorded the result : "I waited patiently for the Lord ; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God : many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord." However dark, then, thy way, however trying thy circumstances, however severe the exercises of

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thy soul, still wait on the Lord ; hold fast by the promise ; so “ shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday ; and the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought.”

Wait for Direction in Difficulty.

Difficulties often arise from our ignorance, or relations in life, or the duties that devolve upon us. These difficulties are often great, so that we know not what to do, or which way to take. Our wisdom is swallowed up, and our friends are unable to advise us. One rash step may ruin us. We appear to be impelled and urged

to go forward, and yet are afraid to take a step. Every plan we have formed has failed; every effort has been abortive. We dare not go back; we fear to go forward: and yet we feel as if we could not stand still. We fancy that no creature was ever tried as we are. We have been sincere, and yet have gone wrong. We have tried our best, and yet have failed. We are tempted to envy others who succeed, to think that the Lord has dealt hardly with us, and even to become reckless. Before us are difficulties, seemingly as great as the Red Sea before Israel; behind us are obstacles, as fearful as the Egyptians behind

them. Besides which, we have no Moses with the rod of God to make a way for us. What can we do? Do as the prophet of old did, who said: "I will wait upon the Lord, that hideth his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him." Yes, wait on the Lord, who has given you this precious promise: "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye." He will point out the way, he will teach thee in the way, he will guide as a loving Father or a faithful friend. There are no difficulties with him. He sees the end from the beginning. He has directed thousands, mil-

lions, who have been in as great or greater difficulties than you are. What he has done for others, he will do for you. Hear his own word: "I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known; I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them." Wait, therefore, on the Lord, and say: "Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God, until that he have mercy upon us."

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Wait for Power in Weakness.

The Christian, at best, is but weak; but, at times, his sense of weakness is truly painful. He feels weaker than a bruised reed. And very often he feels weakest when he has the heaviest burden to carry, the most difficult hill to climb, or the most arduous duties to perform. Also, it often happens that the strongest foes are allowed to assault us in our weakest seasons. So that what with foes opposing us, a heavy burden pressing upon us, corruption working within us, and a rough and trying road before us, we are at a loss what to do. Now is the time to wait on the Lord, and to say with



the Psalmist: "Truly my soul waiteth upon God; for my expectation is from him." Now the promise suits us, and is intended for us: "He giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall; but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Precious promise for a dark day and a trying path! Wait on the Lord, then, however weak, faint, or weary you may feel; and all need-

ful strength and courage shall be given you ; for he will strengthen you with strength in your soul.

Wait for Protection in Danger.

Every believer is exposed to foes, and is in danger from the world, the flesh, and the devil. The world will injure him, if it can ; Satan seeks to worry or devour, to fascinate or terrify ; and the flesh ever lusteth against the spirit, and has mighty power to injure him. He is in danger from false doctrines, untried paths, and an evil heart of unbelief. He needs constant protection ; for unless he is kept by One that is wise and vigilant, watchful and

wary, powerful and present, he is almost sure to be overcome. Now the Lord says: "Fear not, I am thy shield." And David could say: "Thou hast given me the shield of thy salvation, and thy gentleness hath made me great." With the eye fixed upon him, the heart resting on his word, and the voice calling to him in every danger, protection is certain. "For as the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so is the Lord round about his people from henceforth, even forever." Nor does it matter what instruments may be devised or employed against them, if they wait on the Lord in faith and prayer; as it is written:

“Behold, they shall surely gather together, but not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake. Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy. No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.”  
 Wait, then, on the Lord; let whatever danger will threaten, commit thyself to his gracious keeping,

and his powerful arm shall defend thee, and his wisdom shall make a way for your escape. So that, however imminent the danger, though in the very grasp of the foe, you shall have to sing: "My soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and I am delivered."

Wait for Wisdom in Trials.

It requires much wisdom to use trials well, so that we may glorify God in the fires, and get only good to our own souls. Every trial, properly directed, will prove a great blessing; but if not well-directed, it may prove a sore evil. James was speaking of the be-

liever's trials when he said: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." We can not make ourselves wise; but God can make us so, and he is prepared to give wisdom unto all who devoutly wait upon him. The wisdom that cometh from God, used in our trials, will lead us to the strong for strength, will teach us to use the promises aright, and will direct us to seek the deepening of our sanctification, before any thing and every thing else. A wise man in trial will be patient and calm, prayerful and hopeful, resigned and

humble, and will be more concerned to have the trial made a blessing, than to have it removed. Wait, then, on the Lord for wisdom, and see that you obtain it. You may, for God in the Scripture declares: "If thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; so that thou wilt incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart unto understanding; yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; if thou seekest her as silver, and seekest for her as for hid treasures; then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God. For

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the Lord giveth wisdom ; out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding." Hence the exhortation : "Get wisdom, get understanding. Wisdom is the principal thing ; therefore, get wisdom ; and with all thy getting, get understanding."

Wait for Comfort in Sorrow.

You may be sad and sorrowful. Grief may become your companion for a time. Jesus was the man of sorrows, and he was acquainted with grief. We are predestinated to be conformed to his image. We must resemble him in sorrow, before we are filled with his joy. We must be like



him on earth, before we shall be like him in heaven. If we suffer with him now, we shall reign with him by and by. A sorrowful saint can sympathize with a sorrowing Saviour, and with his fellow-believers in their sorrows. Take heed, therefore, lest, on the one hand, you despise sorrow, or, on the other, are swallowed up with over-much sorrow. Sanctified sorrow is a soul-healing medicine. Yet, dwell not too much on your sorrows; they are only for a time; and when the purpose for which they were sent is answered, then they will be removed. Your God is "the Father of mercies," and "the God of all

comfort." He comforteth those who are cast down. Wait, therefore, on the Lord, however deep your sorrows may at present be, and he shall comfort you in all your tribulation. Yield not to despondency, discouragement, or doubt, but remember that the Lord says: "I, even I, am he that comforteth you. Who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid?" "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you, and ye shall be comforted." Though cast down at present, he will soon turn and speak comfortably to you, comforting you in all your tribulations, that so you may be able to comfort

others with the comfort wherewith you yourself are comforted of God. Yea, he will give you everlasting consolation, and good hope through grace. Your weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. Wait, therefore, on God, and he will make you exceeding joyful in all your tribulation.

Wait for Deliverance out of every  
Trouble.

Deliverance is certain, for deliverance is promised. "The Lord will deliver thee in six troubles, and in seven he will not forsake thee." Jesus is THE GREAT DELIVERER; therefore droop not,

doubt not, despond not, but call upon him in the day of trouble, and he will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify him. As a believer, you can have no ground for fear, or reason to despair; your troubles shall not overwhelm you, if you cry unto God. How long your troubles may last, or how low you may sink, is not for me to say; but they will not last long enough to warrant despair; nor will you sink so low, but the everlasting arms will be still underneath you. Remember, in every trouble, that "the eternal God is thy refuge;" that "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." "The

Lord will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble." "I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him; I will set him on high, because he hath known my name." What precious Scriptures are these! Are you in trouble, my friend? Believe them, appropriate them, plead them in prayer, and God will honor them, and make them good. You may have to wait long; you may fancy it too long; but at the very best time, in the very best way, the Lord will arise and have mercy upon you, and will bring your soul out of trouble. Forget not David's testimony: "They

looked unto him, and were lightened; and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles."

Wait on the Lord, Praying.

Prayer is the solace of the soul; therefore the Apostle directs us in every thing to pray. Indeed, we can not be said to wait upon God without prayer; for prayer is the fixing of the eye, the outgoing of the heart, the breathing of the spirit, the cry of the soul. In waiting upon God, let your pray-

ers be simple—simple as a child's speech to its father. Let them be direct, going direct from your heart to the heart of God. Let them be comprehensive, comprising all you want or wish, all you fear or dread, all that is needful now, and all that appears desirable for the future. Every thing should be turned into prayer; all our concerns should be laid before the Lord. They may be temporal or spiritual, limited to time or run into eternity; but whether they regard the soul or the body, the individual person only or the family, the church, the country, or the world, whether they be great things or only

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small matters, they should be carried to the throne, and be laid before the Lord. This is the way to enjoy settled, solid, and habitual peace, and to carry out the Saviour's admonition: "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me."

Any thing that troubles us, however small or apparently trifling, interests our heavenly Father, and he wishes to hear of it from his child's own mouth. Hence the exhortation: "Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us."



Wait on the Lord, Believing.

We should live by faith, walk by faith, and constantly exercise faith. Believe, therefore, what thy God has said of himself, of his designs toward thee, and of his care over thee. Believe in the precious promises he has made thee, in the sweet assurances he has given thee, and in the oath he has taken to secure thee. Believe God, let men, or Satan, or thine own heart, say what they will. Believe God, speaking in his word, let Providence work as it may. Believe God, and then you can give him time to work, then you can trust him in the gloomiest day and in

the darkest night. Believe God, and then you will enjoy perfect peace, as saith the prophet: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is staid on thee, because he trusteth in thee."

Wait on God, believing that he will fulfill his word, confirm thy faith, illustrate his character, and secure thy best interests. Believe God, and wait on him, that he may perform his promises, answer thy prayers, and rejoice over thee to do thee good. Take God at his word, and endeavor to rest upon it. Grasp the promise firmly, and refuse to let it go. Doubting and fearing can do you no good, but must do you im-

mense harm ; but believing God, and staying yourself on his word, will be of incalculable benefit to you. Believe, therefore, and wait. Wait and believe.

Wait on the Lord, Watching.

Watch the hand of God as it works in nature and providence ; but remember that it is moved by the heart of God, which is correctly represented in his word. Ye may mistake the meaning of his works much easier than you can the meaning of his word ; and therefore let his word dwell in you richly, ruling your judgment, and controlling your thoughts. Watch the working

of the Holy Spirit in your heart, and mark the desires he awakens, the graces he quickens, the checks he gives, and the consolation he imparts. Wait on the Lord to carry on his work within you, and watch, expecting him to do it. Wait on the Lord, expecting him to work for you ; and watch his hand, expecting him to answer your prayers. Let your conduct be an illustration of that word: "I wait for the Lord: my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope. My soul waiteth for the Lord, more than they that watch for the morning : I say, more than they that watch for the morning."

Wait on the Lord, searching his Word

All that the Lord has to say to us is to be found in his word. That word is to direct us in difficulty, to counsel us in perplexity, to guide us in danger, to comfort us in trouble, and to encourage us under depression. It is to be a light unto our feet, and a lantern to our paths. Its pages should be daily read, devoutly studied, and heartily believed. We can not become intimate with God but by becoming familiar with his word; and as his word is the chief instrument by which he sanctifies his people, if we wish to be made holy, to be kept safe, and to be truly happy, we should constantly

and carefully read his word. This is at all times important, but was never more important than now, when so many books are written, so many errors are abroad, and religion has become so fashionable. Perhaps few temptations are so common, or more powerful, than the temptation to neglect the devout and frequent reading of God's word; let us therefore be on our guard, and while we profess to wait upon God, let us make much use of his word, and whenever we take it in hand, say: "I will hear what God the Lord will speak; for he will speak peace to his people and to his saints; but let them not turn again to folly."

Wait on the Lord in his Ordinances.

They were instituted for you, and, rightly used, will be a real blessing to you. Go to ordinances on purpose to meet with God; for as he said to Moses, in reference to the mercy-seat, so he speaks to us in reference to his own ordinances: "There will I meet with thee, and I will commune with thee." Ordinances without God are but empty cisterns; and to attend to ordinances without meeting with God, and communing with him in them, is of little account. Yet ordinances should not be neglected, but in every prayer we should seek to draw near to him; in every

hymn we should lift up the heart to him; in every sermon we should listen, that we may hear from him. At the table we should see him preside, and seek heart-affecting fellowship with him, and expect to be revived, refreshed, comforted, or reproved by him. The language of wisdom may be applied to the ordinances of God: "Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors; for whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favor of the Lord." And the language of the Psalmist, we may expect, will set forth our experience, if we attend to divine



ordinances from a right motive and in a right spirit: "Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts; we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple." Then we may well say with David: "One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion; in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me upon a rock."

Wait on the Lord in Quietness of Soul.

This is sometimes very difficult, especially when the conflict within is severe, and the storms of trouble roar. Yet it is a duty, and not only a duty, but a privilege. Reasoning will do but little good. Resistance will injure us. Therefore David took another course. Hear his words: "Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty; neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me. Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of its mother; my soul is even as a weaned child." Here was quiet waiting upon God.

The soul was humble ; it bowed before God ; it lay at his feet, and in stillness of soul, waited for his appearing. This was wise : “ For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel : In returning and rest shall ye be saved ; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.” Quiet, confiding faith in God is sure to calm the surges of the mind, soothe the ruffled spirit, and bring every thought into subjection to the obedience of Christ. Well, then, may the prophet say : “ The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him. It is good that a man should both hope and qui-

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etly wait for the salvation of the Lord."

If in patience we possess our souls, quietly plead with God, and look for his delivering hand, we shall be sure to enjoy his paternal mercy.

Wait on the Lord, Acquiescing in his Will.

Men may be wrong ; God can not be. Whatever he does, he wills ; and whatever he wills is good. Whatever he permits is for wise reasons, and because he can overrule it for his own glory and the good of his people. All things lie open before him. He sees the end from the beginning.

He knows not only what every thing tends to, but what every thing will result in. In every thing he keeps the best interests of his people in view. We may therefore very well submit to his will ; not only submit, but feel resigned ; not only feel resigned, but acquiesce ; not only acquiesce, but prefer his will and way to our own. Higher than this we can not get ; wiser than this we can not be. Now all within will be peace, let things be as they may without ; all before us in the distance will be bright, let them be as they will near at hand. Happy soul that can bow to God's will, approve of God's

plan, be pleased with God's working, and say: "Not my will, but thine be done." "It is the Lord, let him doeth what seemeth him good." Oh! for this calm, quiet, all-subduing acquiescence in the will of God, that I may wait on him, wait before him, and wait for him; saying with the prophet: "Therefore will I look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me."

Wait on the Lord in Hope.

That is, expecting that he will work for you, give good things to you, or effectuate your deliverance. Say with David: "I will

hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more." The promises are intended to raise your expectation, and past experience should strengthen it. There can be no reason to doubt, while you wait upon God; nor can doubting do you the least good. Hope will cheer you, brighten your prospects, and save you from despondency and gloom; therefore hope in the Lord. You may be deeply tried, severely exercised, and at times almost overwhelmed; but at the very worst, you should expostulate with yourself, and say: "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou dis-

quieted within me? Hope thou in God ; for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance." However rough your road, however violent the conflict, however severe the trial, still hope on, hope ever ; for God has said : "They shall not be ashamed that wait for me." Like a vessel on the ocean, you may have to meet with storms and tempests ; you may be tossed and tumbled about, but hope will be as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil. "Therefore, let Israel hope in the Lord ; for with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is plentiful redemption."



Wait on the Lord with Perseverance.

Never give over, while you need a blessing, fear a foe, or groan under a burden. Wait on the Lord, until you obtain all you need, and enjoy all you desire. You can not wait on him in vain, therefore you can not do better. Satan will suggest: "Why should you wait for the Lord any longer?" Tell him, that your God is a Sovereign, and will work in his own time and way ; tell him you are a poor, dependent creature, and must not dictate to the Most High ; tell him that he has appeared for thousands before you, and that he will appear for you. Let Satan suggest what he may,

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let doubts rise never so thick, let fears come never so strong, still wait on the Lord. It is your plain duty, it is your only hope, it is your sure resource. Plead with God, and take no denial. Rest on the promise of God, and never give it up. Wait at the throne of God, and let nothing drive you thence. If the Lord seems to be turned against you, and if every thing seems to conspire to discourage you, still persevere. Remember the woman of Canaan, how she was discouraged; but she persevered and succeeded. Remember Jacob, how he was discouraged, and yet succeeded. Remember Moses, to

whom God said, "Let me alone;" but he persevered and succeeded. Remember Hezekiah, what a death-blow he got, but he persevered and succeeded. The Lord will turn again; he will have compassion upon you; for he will cast all your sins into the depths of the sea. Trust, then, in the Lord forever, for in the Lord Jehovah there is everlasting strength; and that strength shall be put forth, and be made perfect in your weakness.

Wait on the Lord, for He is Strong to  
Save.

No case can be desperate that  
is brought to him. The poor

woman in the Gospel had spent all her property, tried all the physicians, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, until she came to Jesus; and then, by only touching his garment, she obtained a cure. So, let your ease be as bad as it may, having tried what means you will, the Lord can with one word deliver you, set you up on high, and save you forever. He loves to undertake difficult cases. He gets glory by appearing for poor souls in extremity. He has so appeared for millions, and he will yet appear for you. Fix your eye on his strength, and your heart on his promise. David did so, and

in wondering faith exclaimed :  
“O Lord God of hosts, who is  
a strong Lord like unto thee? or  
to thy faithfulness round about  
thee?” All the strength of God,  
if needed, will be put forth for  
thee, if thou waitest upon him.  
Oh! what encouragement to wait  
upon the Lord, to know that he  
can help because he is strong, and  
that he will help because he has  
promised!

Wait on the Lord, for He can not De-  
ceive.

He is truth itself. It is impos-  
sible for God to lie. He can not  
change his mind, break his pro-  
mise, or falsify his word. Heaven

and earth may pass away, but his word shall never pass away. Creatures may prove false and fickle, but he is in one mind, and none can turn him. "The Rock of Israel will not lie nor repent; for he is not a man that he should repent," or change his mind. O believer! here is strong consolation; you have the promise of the unchangeable God to rest upon, not only his promise but his solemn oath; therefore trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and wait on thy God continually.

Wait on the Lord, for He is Kind.

He is kind even "to the unthankful and evil." His kindness is "marvelous." It is united to mercy, and called "merciful kindness." It is united to love, and called "loving kindness." It is immutable, and therefore called "everlasting kindness." It is "the kindness of God our Saviour." The kindness of God is strong and tender, steady and durable, humble and condescending. It rules his heart, shines in his conduct, and is plentifully revealed in his word. It affords the strongest encouragement to the convinced sinner, the seeking soul, the tried believer, and the

miserable backslider." How sweet is the thought, that there is something in God's heart that sympathizes and takes part with the poor petitioner at his feet! When we wait upon God, though guilty, polluted, ungrateful, and depraved, his bowels are troubled for us, and he is determined to have mercy upon us. The kindness of God encourages us to wait on him.

Wait on the Lord, for God waits for You.

"Therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you; and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of



judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him." The Lord is always prepared to give, but we are not always prepared to receive. We have never to wait until he is ready, but he has often to wait until we are. He waits for us long, and therefore we must not be surprised if sometimes he makes us wait. But the longer we wait for the blessing, the sweeter and richer will it be when it comes. As the Lord is even now waiting for the fittest time to bless us, confer his favors on us, or deliver us, it is but right and reasonable that we should wait on him, and wait for him.

Wait on the Lord, and Wait on the  
Lord only.

This was David's counsel to his own soul: "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defense; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory; the rock of my strength and my refuge is in God." In all seasons of affliction and trouble, in all times of temptation and suffering, wait upon God. In the exercise of faith and patience, pleading with him to perform his promises, and deliver thy soul, wait upon God. Murmur not, repine

